

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification by amending the paragraphs starting on page 1, line 1, and ending on page 5, line 23, as follows:

DAHLIA PLANT NAMED 'BOUNTY'

Genus and species of the plant claimed:

Dahlia hortorum(hybrid)

Variety denomination:

Bounty

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Dahlia* plant, botanically known as a *Dahlia hortorum*(hybrid), and hereinafter referred to by the name 'Bounty'. The new cultivar 'Bounty' is a product of a planned breeding program and was selected by the Inventor, Jan SkøjdeSkjold Knudsen, in Fyn, Denmark. The new cultivar 'Bounty' originated from a cross made by the Inventor between the *Dahlia* cultivar designated 'Tonga' (unpatented) as the female parent and the *Dahlia* cultivar designated 'Malaysia' (unpatented) as the male parent.

Asexual reproduction by cuttings of the new variety in Fyn, Denmark has demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as described herein for 'Bounty' are firmly fixed and are retained through successive generations of asexual reproduction. The new variety reproduces true to type.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

'Bounty' has not been tested under all available environmental conditions and the phenotype may vary with variations in environmental conditions such as temperature, light intensity, day length and humidity, without a change in genotype of the plant.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Bounty'. The following characteristics in combination distinguish 'Bounty' as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. White ~~flower~~ray floret color, RHS 155A;
2. Compact plant habit; and
3. Vigorous growth habit.

Side-by-side comparisons between the new *Dahlia* cultivar 'Bounty' and the parental cultivars, 'Tonga' and 'Malaysia', were conducted by the Inventor in Fyn, Denmark.
'Bounty' differs from the female parental cultivar, 'Tonga', primarily in ray floret color.
'Bounty' has white ray florets, RHS 155A, whereas the ray floret color of 'Tonga' is gray-red, RHS 181C to gray-yellow, RHS 161A. 'Bounty' differs from the male parental cultivar, 'Malaysia', primarily in ray floret color and inflorescence size. 'Bounty' has white ray florets, RHS 155A, whereas the ray floret color of 'Malaysia' is red-purple, RHS 63B to 63C. 'Bounty' has an inflorescence diameter of 7-8 cm, whereas the inflorescence diameter of 'Malaysia' is 6.5 cm.

Of the commercial cultivars known to the Inventor, the most similar in comparison to 'Bounty' ~~is~~ is the female parental cultivar, *Dahlia* variety named 'Tonga' (unpatented).
~~'Bounty' differs from 'Tonga' primarily in flower color. 'Bounty' has white flowers, RHS 155A, whereas the flower color of 'Tonga' is gray-red, RHS 181C to gray-yellow, RHS 161A.~~